

# COPY

## Claims

- [c1] A power harness, comprising:  
an electrical cord extending from a housing for delivering  
electrical power to at least one externally accessible downstream  
power port at least partially contained in the housing;  
a plurality of externally accessible USB ports each at least  
partially contained in the housing, the plurality of USB ports  
including first and second upstream USB ports and a plurality of  
downstream USB ports; and  
circuitry interconnecting associated ones of the upstream and  
downstream USB ports such that accessed ones of the plurality  
of downstream USB ports communicate with;  
an accessed one of the first and second upstream USB ports  
when only one of the first and second upstream USB ports is  
accessed; and  
a predetermined one of the first and second upstream USB ports  
when both of the first and second upstream USB ports are  
accessed.
- [c2] The power harness of claim 1 further comprising externally  
accessible upstream and downstream telephone ports at least  
partially contained in the housing, wherein the interconnecting  
circuitry further interconnects associated ones of the upstream  
and downstream telephone ports.

# COPY

- [c3] The power harness of claim 2 wherein the upstream and downstream telephone ports include RJ-12, modular type receptacles.
- [c4] The power harness of claim 1 further comprising externally accessible upstream and downstream networking ports at least partially contained in the housing, wherein the interconnecting circuitry further interconnects associated ones of the upstream and downstream networking ports.
- [c5] The power harness of claim 4 wherein the upstream and downstream networking ports include RJ-45, modular type receptacles.
- [c6] The power harness of claim 1 wherein the housing includes a profile configured to be received by an aperture in an article of furniture panel.
- [c7] The power harness of claim 6 wherein the electrical cord and a first one of the first and second upstream USB ports extend away from a first side of the panel and the at least one downstream power port and a second one of the first and second downstream USB ports extend away from a second side of the panel.
- [c8] The power harness of claim 7 wherein the second one of the first and second downstream USB ports extending away from the second side of the panel is the predetermined one of the first and second downstream USB ports.

# COPY

- [c9] The power harness of claim 1 wherein the housing includes a base having a substantially flat undersurface for resting on underlying surface of an article of furniture panel.
- [c10] The power harness of claim 9 further comprising ballast located between a center of gravity of the housing and the undersurface of the base.
- [c11] The power harness of claim 1 wherein the electrical power is 110 volt, AC power.
- [c12] The power harness of claim 1 wherein the at least one downstream power port includes a plurality of downstream power ports each configured to receive electrical power in parallel from the electrical cord and each at least partially contained in the housing.
- [c13] The power harness of claim 1 wherein the housing comprises discrete first and second members.
- [c14] The power harness of claim 13 wherein the first housing member at least partially contains the at least one downstream power port and the predetermined one of the first and second upstream USB ports.
- [c15] The power harness of claim 14 wherein the first housing member includes an outer surface having a substantially planar portion and a substantially spherical portion, wherein the substantially

**COPY**

Page 26 of 39

planar portion at least partially contains the at least one downstream power port and the substantially spherical portion at least partially contains the predetermined one of the first and second upstream USB ports.

- [c16] The power harness of claim 14 wherein the predetermined one of the first and second upstream USB ports is the first upstream USB port and wherein the second housing member at least partially contains the second upstream USB port and the electrical cord extends through the second housing member.
- [c17] The power harness of claim 13 wherein the first housing member includes a stop and the second housing member includes at least one mechanically biasable member, the stop and the biasable member configured to cooperatively engage a panel having an aperture configured to receive the second housing member.
- [c18] The power harness of claim 17 wherein the second housing members includes at least two mechanically biasable members such that the stop and the biasable member are configured to cooperatively engage panels having varying thicknesses.
- [c19] The power harness of claim 1 further comprising an externally accessible power switch at least partially contained in the housing and coupling the electrical cord and the at least one downstream power port.

**COPY**

- [c20] An article of furniture, comprising:
- a panel having an aperture through first and second opposing sides; and
- a power harness extending through the aperture, including:
- an electrical cord extending from a housing for delivering electrical power to at least one externally accessible downstream power port at least partially contained in the housing;
- a plurality of externally accessible USB ports each at least partially contained in the housing, the plurality of USB ports including first and second upstream USB ports and a plurality of downstream USB ports; and
- circuitry interconnecting associated ones of the upstream and downstream USB ports such that accessed ones of the plurality downstream USB ports communicate with;
- an accessed one of the first and second upstream USB ports when only one of the first and second upstream USB ports is accessed; and
- a predetermined one of the first and second upstream USB ports when both of the first and second upstream USB ports are accessed.
- [c21] A method of manufacturing an article of furniture, comprising:
- providing a panel having an aperture through first and second opposing sides;
- providing a power harness, the power harness including:

**COPY**

an electrical cord extending from a housing for delivering electrical power to at least one externally accessible downstream power port at least partially contained in the housing; a plurality of externally accessible USB ports each at least partially contained in the housing, the plurality of USB ports including first and second upstream USB ports and a plurality of downstream USB ports; and circuitry interconnecting associated ones of the upstream and downstream USB ports such that accessed ones of the plurality of downstream USB ports communicate with: an accessed one of the first and second upstream USB ports when only one of the first and second upstream USB ports is accessed; and a predetermined one of the first and second upstream USB ports when both of the first and second upstream USB ports are accessed; and assembling the power harness in the aperture.

- [c22] An article of furniture, comprising:  
a panel having an aperture extending therethrough; and  
a harness extending through the aperture and including:  
a housing; and  
a plurality of externally accessible USB ports each at least partially contained in the housing, the plurality of USB ports including at least one upstream USB port and at least one

**COPY**

downstream USB port interconnected with the at least one upstream USB port.

- [c23] The article of furniture of claim 22 wherein the plurality of USB ports includes a plurality of downstream USB ports each interconnected with the at least one upstream USB port.
- [c24] The article of furniture of claim 22 further comprising an electrical cord extending from the housing for delivering electrical power to at least one externally accessible downstream power port at least partially contained in the housing.
- [c25] The article of furniture of claim 22 further comprising externally accessible upstream and downstream telephone ports at least partially contained in the housing, wherein the upstream and downstream telephone ports are interconnected.
- [c26] The article of furniture of claim 22 further comprising externally accessible upstream and downstream networking ports at least partially contained in the housing, wherein the upstream and downstream networking ports are interconnected.
- [c27] The article of furniture of claim 22 wherein the at least one upstream USB port extends away from the first side of the panel and the at least one downstream USB port extends away from the second side of the panel.
- [c28] The article of furniture of claim 22 wherein the housing includes a

# COPY

base having a substantially flat undersurface for resting on underlying surface of the panel.

- [c29] The article of furniture of claim 22 wherein the housing includes a stop and at least one mechanically biasable member, the stop and the at least one biasable member configured to cooperatively engage the panel.